

News-Letter Action

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A Wise Man From The East

Reports from the World Convention on Christian Education held in Toronto in mid-August indicate that Dr. Charles Malik, Minister of Lebanon to the United States and Lebanese representative to the United Nations (not be confused with Yacov Malik, Soviet representative on the U.N. Security Council), stirred the religious educators as no other speaker on the program. Harvard educated (Ph.D.) and a devoted Christian, Dr. Malik spoke on "The Crisis of Faith," basing his remarks on the text, "When the Son of Man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"

These words, said Dr. Malik, point to the ultimate crisis of faith. If, when man has exhausted his possibilities, when culture and civilization have borne their fruit, it is still questionable whether here will be faith on the earth, how hopeless must be the "between the times" when history still has something to say.

The present evidences of lack of faith are legion. People are superficial; even our best thinkers cut a sorry figure. They do not know how to walk on "those cold, icy precipices" of which Nietzsche spoke. Consequently, except for the grace of God flowing through the Church and occasional glimpses of light from the universities, the humble folk are without authentic guidance. People trust externals, not ideas and the present world does not point beyond itself. "The whole dimension of the invisible, the transcendent, the awesome, the behind and the beyond and the above, the original and remote, the Presence, this whole dimension is practically lost."

Three mighty tasks challenge the West today. The first is to build an adequate defense for a free world. The second is to stand, energetically and consistently, for "those economic and political conditions whose absence has been the precise cause of the spread of Communism and other corrosives of Western civilization." This means promoting real democracy at home and abroad, where people can freely and actively determine their own government. The third is that the West must share the material goods of the earth with the rest of the world with greater liberality.

Since this third point is central to Dr. Malik's whole theme, the following quotation is important. "It is impossible, for Western civilization to defend itself against Communism so long as between Moscow and Washington there are teeming millions of human beings who have never known anything except poverty, privation and the everpresent menace of starvation, and to whom Moscow means,

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General Assembly Meets

The fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations was convened September 19. It meets in the midst of numerous crises and will have before it many matters which vitally concern the peace of the world and the life of mankind.

Foremost in the minds of the peoples of the 59 member nations is the war in Korea. For the first time in history suppression of actual military aggression has been undertaken by forces of an international organization fighting under an international symbol. General MacArthur's reports of the Korean situation will be before

the Assembly and will doubtless precipitate heated debate. But in view of the fact that 53 of the 59 member states have given approval to the action of the Security Council condemning the North Korean forces for their action and calling on them to cease fire, the outcome of the debate can be clearly anticipated. The Soviet bloc will bitterly assail the action reported by General MacArthur. An overwhelming majority will approve.

A second and closely related matter on the agenda is the proposal of the United States, through Secretary Acheson, that the Assembly take the necessary action to move toward the establishment of a permanent international police force under the authority of the United Nations, to be available for use against aggression in the future. This was intended from the first, and is provided for in the Charter of the UN, the prerogative of the establishment and maintenance of such a force be assigned to the Security Council. But the Council, being the sole organ of the UN where the veto is applicable, has been unable to carry out this task. Now the time has come, the Secretary thinks, to explore other ways in which the same result can be achieved by other than the direct means provided for in the Charter, and yet remain within the framework of the United Nations.

The first item on the agenda of the Assembly was the question of China—which is involved with the whole complex of issues dividing the world today. Sixteen member states have recognized the new government of Mao Tse-Tung, among these being the most influential nation in the East, India, and the most influential nation in western Europe, Great Britain. Russia boycotted all organs of the United Nations from January to August, protesting that the present representatives of the Chinese Nationalist government represent no legal state. In the first hours of the current Assembly, India offered a resolution proposing to seat the new government, on the plausible grounds that it is the de facto government of China. The United States opposed the resolution on the persuasive grounds that only 16 of the 59 states have recognized that government. The resolution was defeated. A substitute resolution was ap-

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J.A.C.

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Disciples Peace Fellowship At Oklahoma City Convention

Following its custom, the Disciples Peace Fellowship will hold "after-ses-sion" meetings on Wednesday and Thurs-day nights, October 11 and 12, in connec-tion with the International Convention of Disciples of Christ at Oklahoma City. These "extra-curricular" sessions will be held in the First Methodist Church, Fourth and Robinson, beginning at 9:45 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible.

On Wednesday night the DPF group will hear Dr. Nels S. F. Ferre, professor of Theology in Vanderbilt School of Religion and prominent author and speaker.

The Thursday night speaker will be Dr. Toyohiko Kawaga, whose address at an earlier hour on the same evening to the Convention will no doubt whet the appetite of hundreds for a share in the more informal hour which he has agreed to spend with the DPF.

The annual dinner, and business meeting and election of officers will be held on Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge of the First Christian Church, 1104 Robinson Street. Tickets for the dinner are \$1.25. DPF President J. Alger Lollis, who has recently returned from an extensive European trip, will be the speaker. The public is cordially invited.

McCARRAN BILL PASSES!

The McCarran Bill (H.R. 9490), designated "The Internal Security Act of 1950," was enacted into law in mid September, despite many protests from religious and other groups which saw in the measure more of a threat to basic American liberties than an effective control of Communist propaganda. Some Congressmen and Senators wired protesting constituents that as much as they disliked the bill they felt constrained to vote for it in view of the Communist menace. The printed bill, which is 110 pages in length, is highly complicated, thus making defense difficult. The bill places almost unlimited powers in the hands of the Attorney General in dealing with persons and organizations accused under its terms. Many of those opposing the measure feel that it endangers basic human liberties.

Washington Round-Up

A Schizophrenic Foreign Policy. As Mr. Blair Bolles of the Foreign Policy Association pointed out to a Washington seminar in 1947, the United States has never really chosen between a foreign policy based on military containment of Communism and one based on international cooperation. Instead, it has tried to ride both horses at the same time. The Marshall Plan and ECA were countered by the North Atlantic Pact and our support of international cooperation through U.N. has been offset by rearming Western Europe. The situation became acute on June 27, 1950 when President Truman in a single statement endorsed the Security Council's action calling for armed assistance to South Korea and offered American troops to the U.N., and at the same time announced that he had ordered the U. S. Seventh Fleet to Formosa to protect Chinese Communists and Nationalists from each other. U.S. military assistance has also been provided for Indo-China and the Philippines on our own unilateral action, without reference to U.N. This dichotomy of intention is further revealed in our financial commitments. We have voted a total of \$130.2 million to the U.N. and its general and specialized agencies, as against a total of something over \$37 billion for regular and extraordinary military expenditures. As long as we spend nearly 300 times as much for military defense as we do for international cooperation we must expect the results to be in proportion.

U.M.T. Again! The high-powered drive for immediate enactment of universal military training appears to be dead so far as this Congress is concerned, though it will undoubtedly be renewed when the 82nd Congress convenes in January. The drive was caught in a log-jam of legislative and political pressure that squeezed it to death. First, President Truman, a consistent supporter of UMT, did not want it considered on such short notice just before a national election. Nor did a number of Congressmen whose political fates will be decided on November 7. The Army came in and said it had its hands too full to undertake a universal military training now. Also, both the Senate and the House, confronted with a backlog of "must" legislation and anxious to adjourn and get home for some political fence-mending, could not afford the time needed to carry a UMT bill through. But it will come again soon.

Korean War Tax Bill. H. R. 8920, designed to raise some \$4.5 billion additional revenue, has passed both the House and the Senate and is at this writing in the hands of a conference committee to iron out differences between the two versions. Observers say it will become obsolete before it goes into effect, due to increased costs of the Korean war and the rearm-

ament program. The bill, as it now stands, raises personal income taxes by 10 to 20 percent for taxpayers in the middle and lower income brackets, while the ceiling for the highest incomes would be raised 77 to 87 percent. Enlisted personnel in the armed forces serving in combat zones designated by the President would receive full exemption on military pay. Officers would receive \$200 per month tax free while in combat areas. Corporation taxes are increased, but Congress has refused thus far to pass an excess profits tax, though promising to do so after Januaury 1, 1951, making the levy retroactive.

Charitable foundations and educational institutions recipients of trust funds or operating businesses come in for scrutiny. Religious organizations operating exclusively for religious purposes are exempt, as are also other organizations where the business operated is directly related to its principal purpose, as, for example, a wheat farm operated by an agricultural college. But an oil well operated by a liberal arts college would not be exempt. Properties turned over to a foundation or institution and leased back to the original owners would pay net income taxes if the lease runs for more than five years. Charitable foundations receiving trust funds must pay a tax on undistributed income remaining at the end of a two and one-half month period following the end of the tax year in which such income was received. At mid-September the House and Senate had not worked out their differences, but it is expected that the bill would be given final approval before the session ends, despite the fact that it is already inadequate.

The New Social Security Law. On August 28, the Social Security Act Amendments of 1950 (H.R. 6000) became Public Law 734. By this law Congress recognizes the changes that have occurred since the Social Security Act was enacted in 1935 and the survivors' coverage added to the old age insurance provisions in 1939. Under the new law Old Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) is considerably broadened and important changes are made in public assistance and social services provided under the Social Security Act. Some 10,000,000 new workers are covered in the new provisions, including lay employees of non-profit agencies on a voluntary basis. Under the new law beneficiaries can become eligible in five years for benefits that would have required 30 years under the previous stipulations. An average increase of 77 percent in retirement at age 65, with a minimum of \$25 per month instead of \$14.99 is a feature of the law. Increased appropriations for child welfare, maternal and child health, and for crippled children are provided. Entirely new is the provision for federal sharing in relief grants to needy persons who are totally and permanently disabled.

JAG

On Social Frontiers

Fordham Appoints Negro to Faculty. Fordham University, noted New York Catholic school, has recently appointed its first Negro faculty member in the person of Denis G. Baron, 24-year-old graduate of Columbia University, as instructor in economics. This appointment is in line with Roman Catholic strategy to win support of the colored races by giving recognition to their leaders and welcoming Negroes into the Catholic fellowship.

* * *

"Old Enough to Drink." At Evansville, Indiana 250 tavern keepers, businessmen, officers from nearby Camp Breckenridge, and Indiana Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission officials met to study means to keep areas in Evansville from being designated "off limits." The result of their "study" was to decide that if a man is old enough to fight he is old enough to drink, despite the fact that Indiana law forbids sales to minors. That is, since 18-year-olds are being drafted, Evansville tavern keepers, brewers and distillers demand the right to serve drinks to them. General Cornelius Ryan, commanding officer at Camp Breckenridge is quoted as saying, "These men are old enough to fight. We can't stamp 'minor' on their cards." So much for the patriotism of the alcohol industry and the concern of the military for safeguarding the morals of young draftees.

* * *

Dangerous Complacency. In mid-September the government of North Korea took an unprecedented step. It appealed to the U.N. against U.S. planes which, it said, had laid waste the industries of North Korea to an extent which endangered the livelihood of the people. Such a public announcement of damages by enemy action is unheard of in war-time. The usual procedure is to suppress all information that could possibly give the enemy knowledge of the effectiveness of his efforts. Lowell Thomas, commenting on this report on his regular evening newscast, said that most Americans would be glad to hear such news. Mr. Thomas is too experienced a news reporter to have overlooked the alternative fact—that very possibly 450 million Chinese, 350 million Indians, and a couple hundred million people of middle eastern Europe may not have been glad to hear it. Fact or fiction, the effect of such an appeal on the peoples of Asia is likely to be very great. Millions of them, shut up to Communist propaganda, are all to ready to look upon the Korean conflict as the work of a Western invading aggressor. The fact should not be overlooked that it may have been designed to stir up resentment against the U.S.

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One for the Book! A radio broadcast declares that a film company has abandoned the filming of the legend of Hiawatha because research is said to have revealed the fact that the real life Hiawatha

was a peacemaker who laid the foundation for the Confederacy of the Five Nations and the filming of his life at this time "might be taken as propaganda for peace!"

J.A.C.

They Sponsor DPs

"Had I been able to go to Europe and pick her out personally I could not have made a happier choice."

With these words Miss Verla Ross, secretary of the Pennsylvania Christian Women's Missionary Society, expresses her delight at having the opportunity to sponsor a young Ukrainian girl who arrived in Washington, Pa., the middle of August.

Out of a past filled with fear, insecurity slave labor and wanton cruelty Swetlana Bezcennyj has come into a free Christian environment. "Until now," she exclaims, "I have had no realization of a normal life," as she tries to become accustomed to the realities of her new life. Much of the effect of the gradual realization of her dream is reflected in Swetlana's face. She is radiantly happy and very grateful to Miss Ross with whom she will make her home and learn to become an American. Miss Ross has placed "assurance" that Swetlana will be cared for.

She is of the Orthodox faith but enters freely into the worship services of the Christian church which she attends with her sponsor. "She has been hungry for religious training and follows the sermon closely, participates in the communion service and especially likes the sentiments expressed in the hymns," writes Miss Ross.

Her baptism in her homeland was secret and she had not the experience of public worship until she was placed in the DP Camp.

She and her parents hoped and prayed as they waited in the camp that someday a sponsor would be found for them. Today they are free people, the parents safe with a sponsor in Brooklyn and Swetlana with her sponsor in Pennsylvania.

The young refugee has enrolled in Bethany College and began her work in that institution with the opening of the fall session in September.

Flanner House Summer Internship

In cooperation with the foreign division of the UCMS and Flanner House of Indianapolis the department of social welfare had the pleasure of making available to the Herman G. Morgan Health Center (an adjunct of Flanner House) the services of two public health workers for the summer of 1950. Miss Betty Marie Ellis and Miss Betty Burton both are trained in the field of public health education and are candidates for the mission field under The UCMS, and the financial assistance provided by the department of social welfare enabled them to serve this internship.

Their chief assignment was that of interpreting the Herman G. Morgan Health

Center to the Negro people. A definite area in the vicinity of Flanner House was chosen for concentrated work.

Working out such an objective necessitated the making of a great many personal contacts. House to house visitation proved to be the most effective method. In such a procedure the young women made important discoveries which will be helpful to the Center in trying to meet the health needs of the people for whom it exists.

For instance, it was found that there is no antagonism directed to the Health Center in particular, but in almost every case there is unreasoning fear of doctors. Quite often the friendly visit of the worker dispelled this fear to some extent and an appointment was made for a check-up at the Center. In other cases the fear of doctors and hospitals so deep-seated that return visits were necessary to get consent even for a physical check-up.

Also, it was found that others living almost under the eaves of the Center did not know anything about it, or, through their lack of confidence in doctors dismissed its presence in their midst by saying "All they care about us is gettin' our money or experimentin' on us—an I don' wanna be a guinea pig!" So the need for building confidence revealed itself and the girls through their friendly understanding visits were able to start building that confidence.

Another factor revealed by the personal contacts is that the people do not know each other at all well. That many times next door neighbors have little more than speaking acquaintance. This pointed up the necessity for some kind of community organization.

These and other facts discovered serve to underscore the need for continuing the program inaugurated during the summer which has taken the following threefold pattern: 1) Supporting the multiple screening programs of the Center by acquainting community persons with the program and its importance, making appointments, and doing follow-up work; 2.) Finding through discussion the attitudes of the people toward health and the Health Center and Flanner House programs.

Discovering which problems lie at the level of awareness and concern, and at which points an attempt at understanding has been made; 3.) Seeking to lay the groundwork for some form of community organization in order that the people may come together to discuss and solve their mutual problems. The first steps in this work include finding common interests, building confidence, finding leadership and lines of friendship which already exist.

Miss Burton will remain with the project for the coming year thus helping to conserve the beginnings which were made this summer. It is with the cooperation of the foreign division of The UCMS, Flanner House, and the department of social welfare that the additional year of service can be provided for the Health Center.

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truly or falsely, that an end will be put to their eternal misery. It is impossible for Western civilization to defend itself against the onslaughts of Communism so long as the standard of living in the United States is ten to a hundred times higher than what it is throughout Asia, rest of the West do nothing about it. In my opinion, the financial implications of Point Four must be multiplied literally a hundred times before anywhere near the preliminary conditions for countering the Communist challenge on the material plane can be met. This is no sentimental act of philanthropy; this is a genuine feeling of human solidarity in a magically contracted world. Also from the point of view of security and prosperity, it will pay in the long run abundant dividends. There is no getting away from the fundamental spiritual maxim: to retain the enjoyment of your liberties and goods, you must liberally share them with others. In that way alone can you penetrate and overcome the penumbra of neutrality which seems to be encasing the Soviet world."

Summing up his definition of the faith of the West, Dr. Malik listed a dozen principles, among which are the following:

a. There is an objective truth about nature, man, society, history and the final things, which must be sought and found.

b. There is a natural law and order to which we must submit if we are to be happy.

c. Man is free to be or not to be in the truth. If he rebels he will have to pay a heavy price to the third and fourth generations.

d. Freedom of thought, conscience and decision is absolutely sacred. By this freedom we share in the perpetual act of creation.

e. The other person is never a means only, but always an end.

f. The human person does not exist for society and the state; society and state exist for the sake of the human person.

g. History is not all vain. There is a real and positive heritage, an accumulation of four thousand years. This heritage of truth and being is the most precious thing in the world.

h. There is a God, a real, living Person who created heaven and earth and who has revealed himself in history. His essence is love, and therefore He suffers for our sins and forgives.

i. Intellectual and spiritual principles are supreme. It is our primary duty to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

j. Man is destined for eternal life, without which our present life is a hopeless, unintelligible mockery.

Ten Points For Peace

Secretary-General Trygve Lie has proposed a ten-point program as the basic policy of the United Nations struggle for peace. Here is a summary of these ten proposals, which will be discussed at the present session of the General Assembly:

1. Inauguration of periodic meetings of the Security Council, attended by foreign ministers, or heads or other members of governments, as provided by the United Nations Charter and the rules of procedures; together with further developments and use of other United Nations machinery for negotiation, mediation and conciliation of international disputes.

2. A new attempt to make progress toward establishing an international control system for atomic energy that will be effective in preventing its use for war and promoting its use for peaceful purposes.

3. A new approach to the problem of bringing the armaments race under control, not only in the field of atomic weapons, but in other weapons of mass destruction and in conventional armaments.

4. A renewal of serious efforts to reach agreement on the armed forces to be made available under the Charter to the Security Council for the enforcement of its decisions.

5. Acceptance and application of the principle that it is wise and right to proceed as rapidly as possible toward universality of membership.

6. A sound and active program of technical assistance for economic development and encouragement of broad-scale capital investment, using all appropriate private, governmental and intergovernmental resources.

7. More vigorous use by all member governments of the specialized agencies of the United Nations to promote, in the words of the Charter, "higher standards of living, full employment and conditions of economic and social progress."

8. Vigorous and continued development of the work of the United Nations for wider observance and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms throughout the world.

9. Use of the United Nations to promote, by peaceful means instead of by force, the advancement of dependent, colonial or semi-colonial peoples towards a place of equality in the world.

10. Active and systematic use of all the powers of the Charter and all the machinery of the United Nations to speed up the development of international law toward an eventual enforceable world law for a universal world society.

Our problem, says Malik, is not simply to defend our values. We cannot defend what we do not initially believe in. But the reaffirmation of Western civilization cannot be wholly intellectual. There must be a union between men of thought and prayer and men of action.

General Assembly Meets

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proved setting up a committee to study the Chinese situation and report back to the Assembly. If this report is made within the next two months, the matter will be before this Assembly again.

A closely related problem is that of Formosa, which is the only territory now controlled by the Nationalist China government. President Truman, on his own unilateral responsibility apparently without consultation with other members of the United Nations, ordered the Seventh Fleet to protect Formosa from invasion by the communist forces of China. His position is that the Formosan question should not be settled by force, particularly under circumstances that would spread the present Korean conflict. The United States has asked the United Nations to study the Formosan situation and recommend a suitable disposition of the problem. This will be one of the most significant issues to be faced by the Assembly.

In 1947 the General Assembly set up a commission to observe and report on the Balkan situation, especially involving support to the Greek guerrillas. A report of this commission to this Assembly will say that the situation has greatly changed in the last three years. Yugoslavia, being earlier accused of aiding the Communist guerrillas, now is reported as no longer doing so. Also the entire guerrilla action has practically been eliminated. But Albania and especially Bulgaria are cited as supporting action against the government of Greece. Incidentally, the United States has served notice on the present Greek government that it must clean up itself particularly in its economic policy which favors the rich and powerful, or lose Marshall Plan assistance.

These issues concern in some manner the present conflicts and tensions of the world. Less dramatic but perhaps much more important in the long run are those matters which concern the removal of the causes of conflict. This responsibility falls to the Economic and Social Council and its several commissions and specialized agencies. It also falls, in another but equally important manner, to the Trusteeship Council. The eleventh meeting of ECOSOC was concluded August 16, one of its chief interests being the program of technical assistance unanimously adopted by the last Assembly. This is a program correlative with the Point Four program of the United States. The report of the Trusteeship Council and action on it will go far in indicating to the submerged masses of the Orient and Africa whether they may hope for freedom and justice at the hands of the stronger nations, especially those of the West.

The next two months at Flushing Meadows may well determine whether we move towards peace or war.

J.A.C.

W. W. S.